



FY 2002 Title II Formula Grant REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Deadline: Monday, April 21, 2003 at 3:00 pm

The Utah Board of Juvenile Justice is pleased to announce the availability of Title II Formula Grants funded by allocations from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

- There is approximately **\$543,254** designated to support the continuation of current projects.
- An estimated additional **\$243,746** will be competitively awarded to support three to five new and innovative programs in the following priority categories:
 1. Programs to reduce the disproportionate representation of minority youth in the juvenile justice system. Priority will be given to programs that enhance and support activities related to the legal representation of youth in the juvenile justice system.
 2. Programs to prevent the use of illegal drugs and alcohol by youth.
 3. Programs designed to provide early delinquency intervention and prevention for children grades kindergarten to twelve. This includes identifying and serving the youthful offender, family support programs and in-home services for ungovernable youth.

Applicants may request funding for projects that combine elements from more than one priority area. Applicants may also propose projects outside of these priority areas. However, because funds are limited this year, it is unlikely that non-priority programs will be funded.

For additional information, please contact:

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Source of Title II Formula Grant Funds

The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention provide title II Formula Grant funding. The funds are appropriated to the State of Utah based on the formula outlined in the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

To qualify for Formula Grant Funding, the State of Utah, through the Utah Board of Juvenile Justice, submitted a juvenile justice plan outlining the priorities for funding for FY 2002. As part of the plan, the Board certified that Utah is addressing the four core requirements of the Act: (1) the removal of status offenders from secure settings; (2) the removal of juveniles from adult jails

and lockups; (3) the separation of juveniles from incarcerated adults; and (4) implementation of strategies to address the disproportionate confinement of minority youth.

Program Priorities

Title II funds may only be used for new and innovative programs. Funds cannot be used to support the needs of existing programs. In developing this request for proposal, the Utah Board of Juvenile Justice has identified the following three priorities for this year's funding competition.

Minority Youth

Minority youth represent 10.9% of Utah's at-risk youth population (ages 10-17 years), yet they make up 30.5% of the population confined in Utah's secure youth facilities. This disproportionality begins at the point of arrest and continues throughout the system. It increases as youth progress through the system.

In the 1999 University of Utah study, *Minority Overrepresentation in the Utah Juvenile Justice System*, researchers found that minority youth, after factoring in offending histories, do receive harsher dispositions than their Caucasian counterparts.

In focus groups with youth and system personnel across the state of Utah, researchers also found that both youth and staff believe that racial stereotyping practiced by personnel at multiple points in the system and by school system personnel leads to more severe sentencing for minority youth. The research also pointed to the lack of adequate legal representation in court by minority youth as a potential contributing factor to harsher sentences.

The Board is seeking applications for programs that propose to reduce the number of minority youth that are involved in Utah's juvenile justice system. High priority will be given to programs that propose to enhance the legal representation of minority youth in the juvenile justice system. These programs can include, but are not limited to, training for defense lawyers on the juvenile justice system or providing legal representation for minority youth.

Illegal Drugs and Alcohol

Utah, like many parts of the country, has documented a steady decline in its juvenile crime rate. In the last seven years, Utah's juvenile arrest rate fell 28%, from 43,214 arrests in 1993 to 31,117 arrests in 2000. The percentage of youth, however, arrested for alcohol and drug-related crimes has continued to increase over the last four years. In 2000, 18.1% of all juvenile arrests were alcohol and drug related. This is up from 15.7% in 1997 (*2000 Crime in Utah*, Bureau of Criminal Identification).

The Board is seeking applications for programs that propose to prevent the use of illegal drugs and alcohol by youth. Priority will be given to programs that are designed to counter the perception that drug or alcohol use is harmless. Applicants should address the problems associated with "club drugs" or "designer drugs." Programs can include, but are not limited to,

public awareness campaigns; training for teachers and parents on drug prevention strategies; and youth prevention activities.

Early Intervention and Prevention

Intervention and prevention programs designed to intervene early with high-risk families and children have the potential to stop the development of adult and juvenile crime. Studies indicate that the earlier the signs of antisocial behavior appear, the more serious the antisocial behavior or delinquency will be in later years (Tolan, P.H., & Thomas, P. 1995. The implications of age of onset for delinquency II: Longitudinal data. *Journal of Abnormal Child Psychology*, 23, 157-169.). Children living in economically deprived, urban neighborhoods are more apt to begin antisocial behaviors at an earlier age, regardless of gender (Guerra, N.G. et al., 1995. Promoting emotional competence in school aged children: The effects of the PATHS curriculum. *Development and Psychopathology*, 7, 117-136.). Another study suggests that antisocial behaviors appear to “crystallize” in the first and second grades (Eron, Huesmann, and Zelli, 1991. The role of parental variables in the learning of aggression. In D.J. Pepler & K.H. Rubin (Eds.), *The development and treatment of childhood aggression*. Hillsdale, NJ: Erlbaum). These studies and many like them suggest that providing early delinquency intervention and prevention services, prevents delinquent and criminal behavior later in life.

The Board seeks applications for programs designed to provide early delinquency intervention and prevention for children grades kindergarten to twelve and their families. This could include but is not limited to increasing the identification of youth at risk and provide them with prevention and early intervention services. Identifying at-risk families and provide them with support services designed to increase parent and family involvement and accountability for juvenile delinquency. Emphasis should be placed on providing in-home services for ungovernable youth.

General Submission Requirements

Qualified Applicants

Only units of local government, school districts, state agencies, Indian tribes and tribal organizations or qualified community-based organizations are eligible to apply for funding assistance.

Community-based organizations (CBOs), such as private non-profit agencies, may receive funding only under contract with a unit of government. CBOs may receive funding directly if they have been denied funding for the proposed program from a local unit of government within the past twelve months. Community-based agencies requesting direct funding must attach a Denial of Funding Letter to their application. The purpose of the letter is for CBOs to show that they made an attempt to receive funding from other government sources.

Prospective applicants should not view the Denial of Funding Letter as a major obstacle or an exclusion to apply for Title II funding. Since most government agencies lack the resources to fund private agencies, a denial letter should be easy to obtain. If the CBO receives more than 60% of their funds from any local unit of government, a letter is not necessary. However, the

applicant must indicate that they receive over 60% of their funds from a local unit of government. The CBO is required to seek only one local government source for funding. A local unit of government can be a city or county agency in the jurisdiction in which the CBO does business.

Submitting an Application

All applications for funding must be submitted utilizing the required forms and following the required format. One original and 11 copies are required. Faxed or emailed applications will not be accepted.

Applications are due by 3:00 pm on Monday, April 21, 2003 to the Utah Board of Juvenile Justice, c/o Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice, 101 State Capitol, SLC, UT 84114-1024. Applications submitted after the deadline may be considered only after all other applications received on time are considered. No applications will be considered if submitted 24-hours after the deadline.

The application must be signed by the chief executive official of the sponsoring unit of local government, state agency, or qualified community-based organization. All sections of the application pertinent to the proposed project must be completed in full.

Utah Crime Reduction Plan

The Utah Board of Juvenile Justice's priorities are based on the goals of the Utah Crime Reduction Plan. You must explain how your program is meeting one or more of the Utah Crime Reduction Plan goals as outlined below.

Goal 1: Decrease the prevalence of drug use, drug sales and drug manufacturing.

Goal 2: Address critical family and community violence issues.

Goal 3: Utilize data sharing, technology, and cooperative communication to enhance public safety and improve the justice system's response.

Goal 4: Increase justice system accountability and provide adequate resources to support Utah's Criminal and Juvenile Justice system.

While the Utah Crime Reduction Plan addresses both the adult and juvenile justice system, due to the nature of this funding source, fundable program activities are limited to issues relevant to juveniles and the juvenile justice system. The full text of the Utah Crime Reduction Plan can be found at the Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice website: www.justice.utah.gov.

Other Requirements

Collaboration

Your project must show active collaboration with two or more youth-serving agencies.

Evidence of collaboration must be in the form of a letter from the agency and must specify the level of involvement in the project. Projects that accept referrals from any agency, or that make

referrals to any agency, must have letters of intent to participate and/or cooperate with the project from the affected agency or agencies. Do **not** include letters of support.

Cultural Competency

Projects must show culturally competency and sensitivity when providing direct services to minorities. This may be demonstrated by staff training, written policies and/or procedures, staff member experience, written action plan or other method determined by the subgrantee.

Cultural sensitivity is defined as an awareness that an individual's gender, race, ethnic/cultural background, community and societal factors significantly affect his or her quality of life. Cultural competency is defined as a systemic approach that demands the skills needed to implement programs within a culturally sensitive framework.

Competent Grant Management

Your agency must assure its willingness to comply with all grant requirements for administration, monitoring, reporting, evaluation, and data collection by reviewing and signing all applicable Certified Assurances. The signed assurances must be attached to and submitted with the original grant application.

Evaluation Study Participation Required

If you are awarded funding, your agency must agree to participate in a service population evaluation study being conducted by the University of Utah Criminal and Juvenile Justice Research Consortium. The study entails the use of two scientifically-validated survey instruments that you will administer to all your grant-funded program clients, ages 12-17. Each client will complete the surveys prior to entering your program, and again upon exiting your program. The surveys are available in English and Spanish.

The survey instruments take approximately 1 hour to 1 ½ hours to administer. You will need to collect permission slips from each parent/guardian before administering the survey.

The survey asks participants to provide demographic data about themselves and their families. Participants also answer questions designed to measure the number of risk and protective factors present in the service population. Completed surveys will be submitted to the University of Utah for analysis. A report will be sent back to you providing feedback about your program's impact. You may request grant funding to assist with survey administration.

Developing Program Self-Sufficiency

There is no match requirement for new applicants seeking Title II funding. If you choose to include a cash or in-kind match as part of your formal budget proposal and on the Application Cover Sheet, you will be required to provide a full accounting and tracking of those funds.

To promote self-sufficiency and long-term operational integrity, your continuation-funding amount is based on your program performance and on a step-down policy. You may not request more than your qualifying amount, as explained below.

- Government agencies applying for a second year of funding may receive no more than 75% of their funding amount received in the first year, and in their third and final year are eligible to receive no more than one half of their first year of funding. For example, if a project receives \$30,000 in its first year, the second year award may be no more than \$22,500 (75% of the first year award). In its third and final year of funding the project qualifies for step-down funding at one half of the base year amount, or \$15,000.
- Not-for-profit agencies may receive up to four years of funding. The second year grant will be no more than 90% of the first year amount. In the third year, projects may be funded up to 75% of the base amount. In the fourth and final year of funding, projects may not receive more than one half of the first year of funding.

In exceptional cases, the Board has the authority to extend funding beyond the three-year and four-year limits. These extensions will be granted by invitation only.

If your project is funded for a subsequent year, you will be required to show a cash or in-kind match to maintain your program at its first year level.

2003 Schedule

March 14	Request for Proposals released
April 21 by 3:00 pm	Deadline for submitting grant applications
April 25	Applications distributed to Review Committees
April 25 – May 22	Committee members review and score applications
May 23	Review Committees meet to make funding recommendations
May 26 – June 9	Final awards determined and applicants notified
June 10 – 27	Contracts finalized with awarded applicants
July 1	Effective date for new programs to begin